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EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE OPTIMISTIC



Every State in the corn-borer control campaign area, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana, is confident that the voluntary clean-up by the farmers will include a high percentage of the territory, if the weather conditions are favorable, according to reports of State extension directors, educational leaders, and editors from these States at the conference held in Toledo, Ohio, March 9.

Demonstrations in how to make a satisfactory clean-up are now under way in each of the five States. Michigan started the campaign with five intercounty demonstrations that drew an average attendance of 2,500 and followed them up with county and township demonstrations, reaching to date 12,000 to 15,000 farmers. How to adjust and use the farmers' own equipment to make a satisfactory clean-up is the subject of these demonstrations, which will be staged on representative farms in every township and community in the control area. Ohio started work in the northwest counties and is now carrying on in that district at the rate of two demonstrations a day. The extension engineers in corn-borer work are traveling from county to county to assist the county agents in this work.

Pennsylvania farmers in the campaign counties have received mimeographed sheets sent to them by their county agents explaining the best methods of clean-up and giving the high spots in the regulations. Responses received from the farmers indicate a high percentage of voluntary clean-ups there. Supplementary educational work among the farmers in the counties bordering the control area is being carried on in Pennsylvania through the organization of corn-borer protection clubs to obtain a voluntary clean-up.

Address communications to Information Division, Corn-Borer Control,
Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

CAMPAIGN The radio is proving a valuable educational aid and is being
PUBLICITY used to advantage in each of the five States. In Michigan,
after each of the large intercounty demonstrations, one of
the extension workers comes in to the college station to give a first-
hand report of the meeting. The inquiries received show that this radio
program has been the first means of reaching a good many farmers with in-
formation as to the clean-up and regulations governing it. The value of
this service was well illustrated recently in the case of a farmer who
had asked to have a demonstration staged on his farm. Saturday noon the
schedule was announced over the radio, and the next morning the county
agent went to see the farmer to inform him that his farm had been chosen
for a demonstration. He found the place posted and signs put up in the
surrounding territory, the farmer having received the news on the radio.

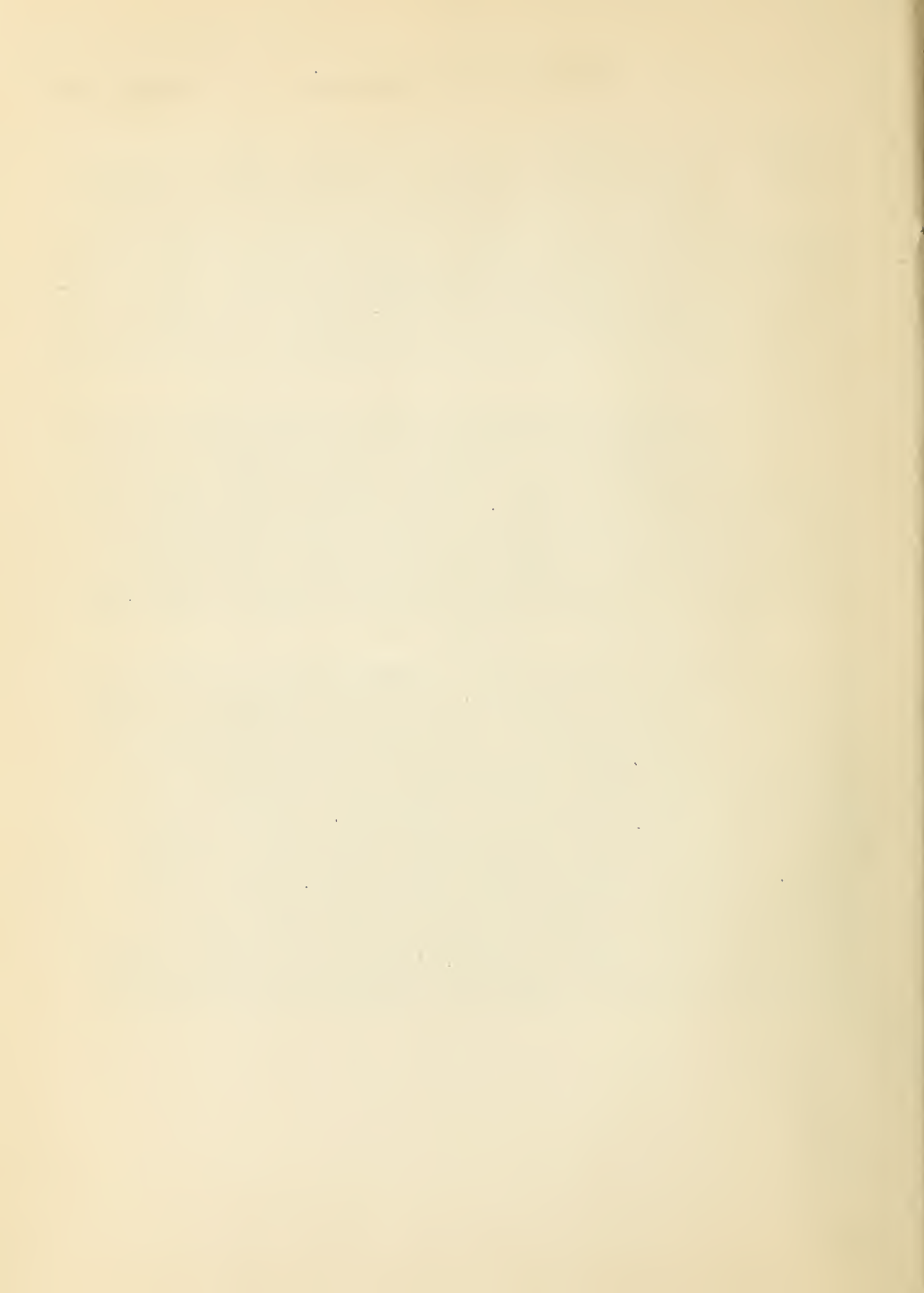
At the conference of the informational workers in the corn-
borer control campaign, in Toledo, March 9, this phase of the work was
reported to be in excellent working condition in each of the States. The
newspapers in the area are giving full cooperation, and plans have been
made to supply them with all the material possible, both local progress
reports and items of State and Nation-wide interest. B. R. Proulx, as-
sistant in the information work in Michigan, obtained a list of all
motion-picture theaters in the clean-up area and furnished it to the
county agents so that they might reach every theater in each county with
the slides provided for use between shows. Three sets of these six slides
have already been sent from the Washington office to each county agent
in the campaign area, and additional sets are now being made available to
the county agents who need more.

VOLUNTARY Farmers making a satisfactory clean-up will be protected, said
CLEAN-UPS L. H. Worthley in charge of the field organization, and need
PROTECTED feel no anxiety about any neighbors not having to clean up. A
thorough inspection will be given every farm in the area by
the regulatory forces. Small patches of corn in city, suburban, and town
gardens will also be given attention in the control campaign. Definite
plans for the educational phase of the work have already been made and in-
clude the cooperation of the luncheon clubs, boy and girl scouts, churches,
and schools. Through this work, the city gardener will have a chance to
become acquainted with the regulation and methods of control and to see
the necessity of a thorough clean-up for the protection of all. There
will also be a regulatory organization to inspect the gardens and to make
a complete clean-up if the owners do not.

EXTENSION C. W. Warburton, Director of Extension, told the conference
TO AID at Toledo that he thought the situation should be carefully
FARMER studied by the extension organization to give all possible
help to the farmers in making the necessary adjustments in
their systems of farming operations. The spread of the corn borer would
undoubtedly lead to improved methods of farming in affected areas of the
Corn Belt after the adjustments had been made to deal with this new pest.
He pointed out that a parallel to the present situation was found in the
cotton-boll weevil invasion of the South, except that the corn borer if
not checked would prove fundamentally more disastrous to agriculture than
the boll weevil.

THE COUNTY The county supervisor is the man to get in touch with in re-
SUPERVISOR gard to any matters governing the application of the regula-
tion under which the campaign is being conducted. The su-
pervisor and his inspectors will determine whether a field submitted for
inspection is clean or not clean. General instructions have been given
the supervisors already appointed, and detailed instructions will be
given to them in the field during the week beginning April 11. Most of
these supervisors will have their offices in their own homes with no
elaborate office equipment, as their duties will keep them in the field
most of the time. A system of reports has been worked out which will
reduce office requirements to a minimum.

Frederick L. Fall has been appointed as district supervisor of
regulatory work in Ohio and Michigan under Mr. Brewer: Carol O. Larrabee
as principal field aid in charge of clean-up work in Michigan with John
W. Enright as district supervisor in Michigan to help him. Benjamin A.
Enright has been appointed district supervisor for Mercer, Beaver, Butler,
and Lawrence counties, Pa. Recommendations by the county corn-borer
committees for the appointment of the following men as supervisors have
been received since the last issue: In Ohio, O. E. Secrist, Sandusky
County; Fred W. Knoll, Huron County; Robert Limpert, Cuyahoga County;
Foster L. Finkle, Wyandot and Marion counties; Fred Cares, Defiance
County; Tom A. Fell, Trumbull County; Walter Spencer, Geauga and Lake
counties; Corwin Swan, Wayne and Holmes counties; Harvey O. Brown,
Mahoning and Columbiana counties; James W. Fluke, Ashland, Richland, and
Knox counties; Ross T. Chrisman, Medina County; and A. L. Neale, Summit
County. In Michigan, Henry D. Phillips, Lenawee County; Fred Schrepfer,
Livinston County; Luman A. Seamans, Wayne County; and M. J. Wing, Wal-
lambazoo County.



INDIANA Indiana farmers have begun their clean-up in earnest, says
CLEAN-UP Frank N. Wallace, State regulatory agent, and on the first good day in two townships in the campaign area, the air was so full of smoke from burning cornstalks, one could hardly see. Fourteen men are now at work in the six Indiana counties in the control area, and of the 10,000 farms in the district, 6,000 have already been visited. Control workers have planned to see and talk to every farmer in the clean-up area. Mr. Wallace as State entomologist has been fighting the borer for some time. Last year the infestation was approximately 10 borers to the acre. One of the steps taken to convince farmers of the need for prompt action was the organization of parties of farmers to go into Canada to see and talk with farmers whose fields had been infested for five years. Each man in the party was asked to pick the borers from a single cornstalk, put them in a preserving fluid, and bring them back as an object lesson. Men found the corn business ruined and came back active supporters of the idea of control at home.

DIRECTOR WOODS Dr. A. F. Woods, director of scientific work in the U.S.
IN THE FIELD Department of Agriculture, met with between 300 and 400 farmers of Defiance County, Ohio, April 7, to discuss the regulations governing the corn-borer control campaign. In this section the clean-up is particularly difficult, as there is now a heavy stand of stalks in most of the fields and the farmers thought that a clean-up as required would seriously delay the seeding of oats and delay other regular farm operations between now and July so much as to ruin or nearly ruin the crop prospects for the year. They argued that there were few corn borers in their section and the damage done had been relatively small. They had also heard that the government was purchasing unnecessarily large amounts of machinery.

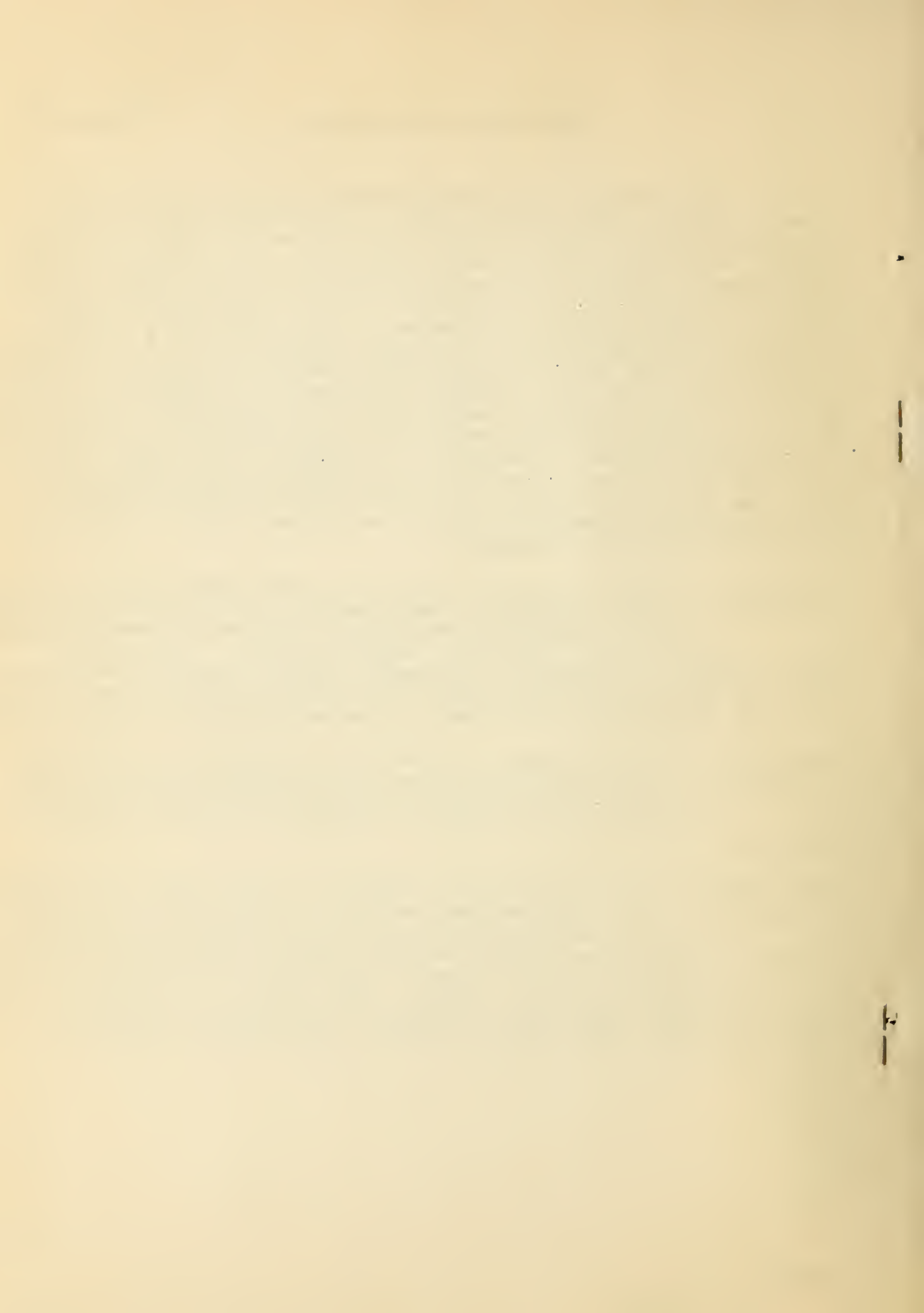
After the discussion, Dr. Woods told the farmers of the origin of the campaign among farmers who had seen the danger to the corn crop of the entire country, the conditions which were making the clean-up necessary, and the necessity of a thorough clean-up if anything was to be accomplished. It is necessary to have sufficient machinery to make the clean-up complete to protect the farmers who clean up and make the campaign effective. Dr. Woods answered questions asked him by the farmers for about an hour and a half. He said the campaign would be conducted with consideration for the difficulties encountered and common sense but that the clean-up would have to be complete. O. S. Fisher, of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, also addressed the meeting.

Those attending the Toledo conference were H.C.Ramsower, director of extension, D. S. Myer, district agent, J. E. McClintock, editor, and J. R. Fleming, associate editor, College of Agriculture, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; R. J. Baldwin, director of extension, J.B.Hasselman, editor, and B.R.Proulx, assistant in corn-borer information, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich.; G.I.Christie, director of extension, L.E.Hoffman, in charge, corn-borer education, T.R.Johnston, editor, I.J.Mathews, assistant in corn-borer information, Purdue University, LaFayette, Ind.; E.V.Underwood, in charge corn-borer education, Bristow Adams, editor, New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N.Y.; M.S.McDowell, director of extension, H.W.Worthley, extension entomologist, E.H.Rohrbeck, editor, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; and the following officials of the U.S.Department of Agriculture: C.W.Warburton, director of extension work, C.B.Smith, chief, Office of Cooperative Extension Work, W.H.Larrimer, L. H. Worthley, and C.O.Reed, Bureau of Entomology officials in charge of corn-borer control, G.E.Farrell and L. R. Simons in charge of corn-borer education, and Reuben Brigham and L.A.Schlup, in charge of corn-borer information.

EQUIPMENT Stubble beaters and tractors are being shipped rapidly to the
DISTRIBUTION supply stations to be made available to the farmers in the counties. Western Ohio and Michigan, which have an especially heavy job of clean-up on their hands, have already received 187 tractors and 138 stubble beaters. The movement of Government machinery into the counties is doing much to accelerate the clean-up. It is planned to have 12 tractors and 12 stubble beaters in each Ohio county in the control area in the near future.

IOWA PASSES A bill to appropriate \$200,000 for prevention of an invasion
CONTROL BILL by the European corn borer has been voted by the Iowa legislature. The house made the appropriation possible by concurring 81 to 7 in a senate bill providing an extensive program for combating the pest.

STEEL RAILS Steel railroad rails recommended for poling down in the clean-
FOR CLEAN-UP up work have been made available to Ohio farmers at scrap-iron prices, announces Charles V. Truax, director of the State department of agriculture. This has been made possible through the cooperation of several railroads in Ohio. In Henry County a carload of 30 foot rails were received and distributed to the farmers. Many farmers are also using the full-length rail, which weighs about 600 pounds. The dragging of these heavy rails over the standing stubble has been found an effective aid in cleaning up.



EDUCATIONAL The following new appointments have been made in the corn-
APPOINTMENTS borer educational work: In Ohio, Russell H. Reed, Israel
Park Blouser, Robert C. Henton, David A. Isler, Edward A.
Silver, extension engineers in corn-borer work; F.M.Campbell, extension
entomologist in corn-borer work; C.C.Lowe, county agent, corn-borer work;
John M. Tresskerm, Williams County, S.M.Blaricom, Columbiana County; Newman
K. Chaffee, Portage County; Howard F. Kohler, Mahoning County; and Ronald
B. Waugh, Lake, Ashtabula, and Geauga Counties, assistant county agents in
corn-borer work. In Michigan, Allen Rush, Macomb County; Raymond B. Laser,
Hillsdale County; George B. Frost, Ingham County; assistant county agents
in corn-borer work.

THE EUROPEAN CORN BORER

We read in Emersonian ode
How, down along the Concord road,
"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,"
Stout farmers in the April mud
Made good the challenge they had hurled
And "fired the shot heard round the world."
Right here and now as loud as then
There sounds a call for Minute Men.
A state of war exists once more;
A foreign foe is on our shore.
We rightfully apply the term
To this here new corn-borer worm.
He is a cautious coot, dodrot him;
He won't come out where we can swat him.
Within the cornstalk armor smug,
His tunnels, here and yonder dug,
Cause breaking over of the tassels
And likely tell you where he wrastles.
Just cutting up a stalk or so
Will show the cuss in status quo.
Ensile the crop where he is seen,
Plow all the weeds and stubble clean.
If every weed and stalk go under,
You're sure to bother him like thunder.
I aim to land a hearty swat
When he appears on my back lot,
And trust that men with broader acres
Will not be idle bellyachers,
But smite instead his solar plexus
Before his sons are born to vex us,
O let us rise and crush the stranger
Who puts the Indian corn in danger.
Or if we can't destroy him quite,
Let's make him know he's in a fight.

--Bob Adams.

Courtesy, Cooperative Agricultural Extension, New York State College of
Agriculture at Cornell University.

